

TOP SECRET RUFF

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FISHBED SHIPPING CRATES
MERS EL KEBIR NAVAL BASE AND SHIPYARD, ALGERIA

THIS ATTACHMENT SUPPLEMENTS INFORMATION CONTAINED
IN THE ATTACHMENT TO [REDACTED]

COLLATERAL:

WHILE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE SOVIETS AND THE ALGERIANS
HAVE BEEN SOMEWHAT STRAINED, THOSE BETWEEN THE FRENCH
AND THE ALGERIANS HAVE BEEN IMPROVING. EVIDENCE OF
THIS IS REVEALED BY A RECENT FRENCH-ALGERIAN AGREE-
MENT WHEREBY FRANCE HAS AGREED TO PROVIDE ALGERIA
WITH MORE AIR ASSISTANCE. THIS ASSISTANCE IS TO
INCLUDE PILOT TRAINING IN FRANCE OF ABOUT 185 ALGERIAN
AIR FORCE PERSONNEL IN THE FOUGA MAGISTER JET TRAINER.
IN RETURN, ALGERIA IS TO PURCHASE FRENCH MILITARY
AND CIVILIAN-TYPE AIRCRAFT.

THE CONCLUSION OF A NEW ARMS PACT BETWEEN THE SOVIET
UNION AND ALGERIA REPORTED TO HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN
FEBRUARY, COUPLED WITH THIS LATEST SHIPMENT OF FISH-
BED AIRCRAFT MAY INDICATE AN ATTEMPT TO REPAIR RELA-
TIONS BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION AND ALGERIA.

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